

sweeping vistas), and links with local legends. Motifs vary according to site use—sites associated with trails tend to have geometric designs such as cupules and circles, while those away from trails have more figurative images. The earlier the site, the more stick figures it contains, while later sites have a preponderance of anthropomorphs with a triangular torso.

The authors sensibly conclude that “we cannot enter the minds of those long gone nor can we share the same psychological states of those who made the carvings”, a sentiment that is very unpopular today in some circles, but one which remains irritatingly true nonetheless. Yet they make some sound deductions from the available raw data of motif, technique and location, speculating that the petroglyphs may have multiple hidden meanings, and have been used to keep records, mark boundaries, commemorate events, record legends, document births or deaths or battles or genealogies, proclaim domain or custodianship, and seek mana and favour from the gods. The one solid piece of ethnographic evidence about petroglyph making in Hawai'i is that the images at one site were a commemoration of a chief's death. The only disturbing aspects of the book's subject matter are the constant references to the alarming catalogue of damage done to Hawai'i's rock art—some has been lost over the years to new lava flows, but by far the greatest culprits are people. Thousands of glyphs have been lost to developments such as golf courses, but damage has also been done by bulldozers, vandalism, graffiti and gunfire, as well as the frequent unthinking application of latex, paint and chalk. Since education is the only real long-term antidote to this kind of threat, it is to be hoped that this fine book will play a major role in teaching the Hawaiians to care more about these treasures that are scattered through their islands.

From the Stone Age to the Space Age in 200 Years: Tongan Art and Society on the Eve of the Millennium

Edition for the 80th Birthday of His Majesty King
Tāufa'āhau Tupou IV in July 1998.

The Tongan National Museum, Catalog, 1999.

Adrienne L. Kaeppler
ISBN 982-9005-01-1

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Nuku'alofa, Tonga, South Pacific. Email: vapress@kalianet.to

The exhibit at the Tongan National Museum and this catalog focus on artifacts collected in Tonga in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. These are now in the collections of the Fiji Museum in Suva, Tupou College at Toloa, objects from the royal collection, and private citizens. The bulk of the objects on display and in the catalog are from the collection of Mark and Carolyn Blackburn of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

This paper cover exhibit catalogue contains 70 pages and is beautifully illustrated with color and black and white photographs and early etchings. The material is divided into History and Society; Art and Society; Art, Events, and People; Tufunga, The Work of Male Artisans and Craftsmen; Koloa, the Fine Arts of Women; Personal Objects and Body Ornamentation, Teuteu;

Poetry, Music and Dance; Tongan Art and Artifacts as Cultural Documents; and Tools of Modern Tonga.

The text provides background and general information about the arts of Tonga, and the catalog listing at the back gives full information on the beautiful objects in the exhibit.

Two new blockbusters from David Stanley/ Moon Travel Books: Tahiti Handbook, and Fiji Handbook

Reviewed by Georgia Lee

Tahiti Handbook Including Easter Island and the Cooks

Moon Travel Handbooks, PO Box 3040, Chico, CA 95927
4th edition, 1999; \$15.95. ISBN 1-56691-140-0

Paper cover, 435 pages, fully indexed with separate index for accommodations; 51 maps, black/white illustrations, charts, book lists, glossary and 'capsule' vocabulary for Tahitian and French. A web site directory provides an invaluable resource for internet users.

This edition of the *Tahiti Handbook* includes Tahiti-Polynesia, the Australs, Tuamotus, Gambiers, Marquesas Islands and also Easter Island and the Cook Islands. It is a handy and convenient all-inclusive source for travelers heading in either direction from Tahiti, or across the Pacific.

The Introduction covers the islands in general, their history, and customs. 'On the Road' covers holidays and festivals, arts and crafts, services, health, getting around, etc. Interspersed are small gems about the literature of the area, famous movies (*Mutiny on the Bounty* comes to mind), such esoterica as how to buy a black pearl, and tips for single women who don't wish to be hassled by the local hunks.

The islands or island groups are then taken in order from Tahiti, the Australs, Tuamotus, Gambiers, Marquesas, Easter Island and, finally, the Cook Islands.

Stanley is noted for his off-beat "takes" on travel, and he provides a wealth of detail on just about any subject you can imagine. His comments on ecology, conservation, and customs are particularly germane; his descriptions of accommodations on even the most remote spots are invaluable. Stanley travels anonymously when researching his travel books, thus he is not treated as a "favored guest" at hotels, resorts, and restaurants. This means the reader can trust his opinion and know that he/she will get the same sort of service. Each and every hotel in these islands is included, not just a sampling. As the author points out, luxury hotels separate the traveler from the environment, and the visitor from the culture. He stresses mid-price accommodations, sights and things to do for the independent traveler.

Looking for a hiking guide? The karaoke bars? Interested in the lost treasure of the Tuamotus? How about Hinano beer? Want to know which resorts pump raw sewage into the bay? The difference between "ecotourism" and "ecoterrorism"? You will find it all in this book.

Fiji Handbook

Moon Travel Handbooks, PO Box 3040, Chico, CA 95927
5th edition, 1999; \$14.95. ISBN 1-56691-139-7

Paper cover, 321 pages, fully indexed with separate index